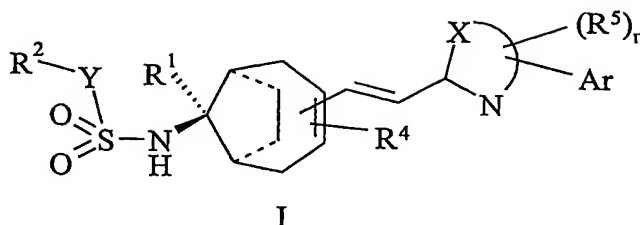


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



5 wherein n is 0 or 1;

X completes a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring bearing the group Ar as a substituent, and also the group R⁵ as a substituent when n is 1;

R⁵ represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms;

10 Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

Y represents a bond or NR³;

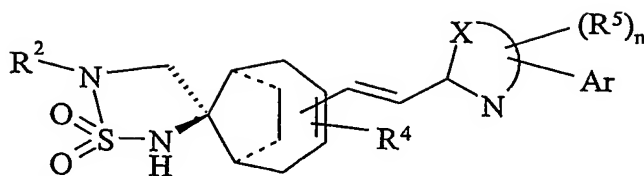
15 R¹ represents H, or when Y represents NR³, R¹ and R³ may together represent -CH₂-;

R² represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms, or heteroaryl of 5 or 6 ring atoms optionally bearing up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy; or when Y represents NR³, R² and R³ together may complete a heterocyclic ring of up to 6 members which optionally bears up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

20 R³ represents H or C₁₋₄alkyl, or together with R¹ represents -CH₂-, or together with R² completes a heterocyclic ring as defined above; and

25 R⁴ represents halogen or C₁₋₄alkyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula II:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

where n, X, R², R⁴, R⁵ and Ar are as defined in claim 1.

5 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is a bond and R² is hydrocarbon of up to 6 carbon atoms, optionally bearing up to 3 fluorine or chlorine substituents, or 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl which is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1.

10 4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Y represents NR³ and either R³ is H and R² represents alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms; or R² and R³ complete a heterocyclic ring.

15 5. A compound according to claim 2 wherein R² represents alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms.

20 6. A compound according to any previous claim wherein X completes a heteroaryl group selected from include 5-aryl-1-methylpyrazol-3-yl, 5-aryloxazol-2-yl, 4-arylpyridin-2-yl, 1-arylimidazol-4-yl, and 1-aryl-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl, where "aryl" refers to the group Ar as defined in claim 1.

25 7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. A compound according to any of the claims 1-6 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

5 10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.